

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 182 - HB 385

March 27, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Effective July 1, 2009, requires the clerk of court in which a person is convicted of an animal abuse offense defined as aggravated cruelty to animals, felony animal fighting, and bestiality to forward a copy of the judgment document of the conviction and other relevant information to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) within 45 days of the judgment. Requires TBI to maintain and make such data available for public inquiry on the Internet. Such offenders are required to notify the TBI within 48 hours of establishing or changing residences, practicing a vocation, or becoming a student. Assesses a \$50 fee against any animal abuser who is subject to registration. The fee, taxed as court costs, shall be retained by the clerk of court to defray administrative costs. Requires the TBI to remove from the registry the name and other identifying information of any person who has not been convicted of an animal abuse offense for a period of 10 years from the date of the person's most recent conviction. Creates a Class E felony for an abuser knowingly to falsify information provided to the TBI, to fail to timely disclose required information to the TBI, and to fail to pay the initial registration fee or the annual administrative costs. Violation is punishable by fine only. Such fines are earmarked for TBI to defray costs of implementation. Requires TBI to remove all data pertaining to a registered abuser on receipt of a death certificate. Requires the TBI to promulgate rules necessary to implement and administer the provisions of this act.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenue - Not Significant
Increase State Expenditures - \$26,200/One-Time

Increase Local Revenue - Not Significant
Increase Local Expenditures - Not Significant

Assumptions:

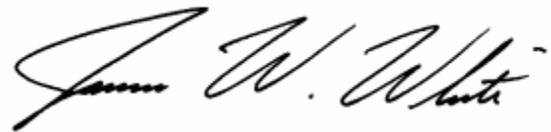
- According to data provided by the Department of Correction, there have been two admissions for felony animal fighting offenses in each of the past three years. No admissions for aggravated cruelty of animals or bestiality offenses.

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- Due to the minimal number of offenders who will be required to register and pay the \$50 fee, no significant increase in state or local revenue.
- According to the Comptroller's Office of the Treasury, the increase in local government expenditures is estimated to be not significant for transmitting the required information to TBI.
- TBI would have a one-time increase of \$26,200 for database design and programming (\$12,000), front-end application (\$8,000), Web site development (\$1,200), security certificate and domain name registration (\$500), and system testing, documentation, and product implementation (\$4,500).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

James W. White, Executive Director

/lsc